



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

Raised Bill No. 451

LCO No. 2183

02183_____ENV

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:
(ENV)

***AN ACT CREATING A GRANT PROGRAM FOR BUSINESSES THAT
INSTALL SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Department of
2 Environmental Protection shall establish and administer a solar
3 thermal incentive grant program for business firms that install an
4 active solar energy heating or cooling system. Grants shall be made
5 equivalent to fifty per cent or less of the cost for the installation and
6 purchase of any such system where the cost for such system is twenty
7 thousand dollars or more, but no grant shall exceed one hundred
8 thousand dollars. For the purposes of this section, "active solar energy
9 heating or cooling system" means equipment that (1) provides for the
10 collection, transfer, storage and use of incident solar energy for water
11 heating, space heating or cooling which, absent such solar energy
12 system, would require a conventional energy resource, such as
13 petroleum products, natural gas or electricity, (2) employs mechanical
14 means such as fans or pumps to transfer energy, and (3) meets
15 guidelines established by the Commissioner of Environmental
16 Protection, and "business firm" means any business entity authorized
17 to do business in the state and subject to the corporation business tax

18 imposed under chapter 208 of the general statutes, or any company
19 subject to a tax imposed under chapter 207 of the general statutes.

20 (b) To apply for a grant, a business firm described in subsection (a)
21 of this section shall submit a grant application on forms prescribed by
22 the Commissioner of Environmental Protection. The commissioner
23 may reject any grant application that the commissioner determines to
24 be incomplete. If the commissioner rejects an application, the
25 commissioner shall promptly notify the applicant of the reasons for the
26 rejection and, not later than fifteen days after the date of such notice,
27 such applicant may resubmit the application in the same manner as the
28 original application.

29 (c) The Department of Environmental Protection shall develop
30 guidelines specifying (1) which technologies qualify for a grant, (2) the
31 procedures for the award of a grant, and (3) a method to prioritize
32 applications.

33 (d) There is established an account to be known as the "solar
34 thermal incentive program account" which shall be a separate,
35 nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The account shall
36 contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account.
37 Moneys in the account shall be expended by the Department of
38 Environmental Protection for the purposes specified in this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To create a solar thermal incentive program to encourage the use of solar energy technology.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]